

## THE EASTER VIGIL



*1st Reading [longer form] † Genesis 1:1-2:2*

*God saw all he had made, and indeed it was good.*

### **A reading from the book of Genesis**

In the beginning God created heaven and earth. Now the earth was a formless void, there was darkness over the deep, with the spirit of God sweeping over the waters.

God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light. God saw that light was good, and God separated light from darkness. God called light 'day', and darkness he called 'night'.

And there was evening and morning, the first day.

God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters to divide the waters in two.' And so it was. God made the dome, and it divided the waters under the dome from the waters above the dome. God called the dome 'sky'.

And there was evening and morning, the second day.

God said, 'Let the waters under the sky come together into a single mass, and let dry land appear.' And so it was. God called the dry land 'earth' and the mass of waters 'seas', and God saw that it was good. God said, 'Let the earth produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants, and fruit trees on earth, each bearing fruit of its own kind within it.' And so it was. The earth produced vegetation: the various kinds of seed-bearing plants and the fruit trees, each bearing fruit of its own kind within it. God saw that it was good.

And there was evening and morning, the third day.

God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of heaven to separate day from night, and let them be signs for festivals, days and years. Let them be lights in the dome of heaven to give light on the earth.' And so it was. God made the two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, the smaller light to rule the night, and the stars. God set them in the dome of heaven to give light on the earth, to rule the day and the night and to separate light from darkness. God saw that it was good.

And there was evening and morning, the fourth day.

God said, 'Let the waters teem with living creatures, and let birds wing their way above the earth across the dome of heaven.' And so it was. God created great sea monsters and all the creatures of every kind that glide and teem in the waters, and winged birds of every kind. God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the waters of the seas; and let the birds multiply on land.'

And there was evening and morning, the fifth day.

God said, 'Let the earth produce living creatures of every kind: cattle, creeping things and wild animals of every kind.' And so it was. God made wild animals in their own kind, and cattle in theirs, and all the creatures that creep along the earth in their own kind. God saw that it was good. God said, 'Let us make man in our own image, in the likeness of ourselves, and let them be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven, the cattle, all the wild animals and all the creatures that creep along the earth.'

God created man in the image of himself,  
in the image of God he created him,  
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, saying to them, 'Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and subdue it. Be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven and all the creatures that creep along the earth.' God also said, 'Look, to you I give all the seed-bearing plants on the surface of the earth, and all the trees with seed-bearing fruit; this will be your food. And to all the wild animals, all the birds of heaven and all the living creatures that creep along the ground, I give all the foliage of the plants as their food.' And so it was. God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good.

And there was evening and morning, the sixth day.

Thus heaven and earth were completed and all their array. On the seventh day God had completed the work he had done. He rested on the seventh day after all the work he had been doing.

The word of the Lord.

*1st Reading [shorter form] † Genesis 1:1.26-31*

*God saw all he had made, and indeed it was good.*

**A reading from the book of Genesis**

In the beginning God created heaven and earth.

God said, 'Let us make man in our own image, in the likeness of ourselves, and let them be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven, the cattle, all the wild animals and all the creatures that creep along the earth.'

God created man in the image of himself,  
in the image of God he created him,  
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, saying to them, 'Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and subdue it. Be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven and all the creatures that creep along the earth.' God also said, 'Look, to you I give all the seed-bearing plants on the surface of the earth, and all the trees with seed-bearing fruit; this will be your food. And to all the wild animals, all the birds of heaven and all the living creatures that creep along the ground, I give all the foliage of the plants as their food.' And so it was. God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good.

And there was evening and morning, the sixth day.

The word of the Lord.

*Responsorial 1 [Option 1] † Psalm 103:1-2.5-6.10.12-14.24.35*

***Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.***

Bless the Lord, O my soul!  
O Lord my God, how great you are,  
clothed in majesty and honour,  
wrapped in light as with a robe!

***Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.***

You set the earth on its foundation,  
immovable from age to age.  
You wrapped it with the depths like a cloak;  
the waters stood higher than the mountains.

***Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.***

You make springs gush forth in the valleys;  
they flow in between the hills.  
There the birds of heaven build their nests;  
from the branches they sing their song.

***Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.***

From your dwelling you water the hills;  
by your works the earth has its fill.  
You make the grass grow for the cattle  
and plants to serve human needs.

***Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.***

How many are your works, O Lord!  
In wisdom you have made them all.  
The earth is full of your creatures.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul.

***Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.***

*Responsorial 1 [Option 2] † Psalm 32:4-7.12-13.20.22*

***The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.***

For the word of the Lord is faithful,  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right,  
and his merciful love fills the earth.

***The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.***

By the word of the Lord the heavens were made,  
by the breath of his mouth all their host.  
As in a flask, he collects the waves of the ocean;  
he stores up the depths of the sea.

***The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.***

Blessed the nation whose God is the Lord,  
the people he has chosen as his heritage.  
From the heavens the Lord looks forth;  
he sees all the children of Adam.

***The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.***

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.  
He is our help and our shield.  
May your merciful love be upon us,  
as we hope in you, O Lord.

***The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.***

*2nd Reading [longer form] † Genesis 22:1-18*

*Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac.*

**A reading from the Book of Genesis**

It happened some time later that God put Abraham to the test.

'Abraham, Abraham!' he called.

'Here I am,' he replied.

God said,

'Take your son, your only son, Isaac whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and there you shall offer him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains which I shall point out to you.'

Early next morning Abraham saddled his donkey and took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. He chopped wood for the burnt offering and started on his journey to the place that God had indicated to him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.

Then Abraham said to his servants,

'Stay here with the donkey.

The boy and I are going over there;  
we shall worship and then come back to you.'

Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering, loaded it on his son Isaac, and in his own hands carried the fire and the knife. Then the two of them set out together. Isaac spoke to his father Abraham, saying,

'Father?'

He replied,

'Here I am, my son.'

He said,

'Look, here are the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?'

Abraham replied,

'My son, God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering.'

And the two of them went on together.

When they arrived at the place that God had indicated to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven.

'Abraham, Abraham!' he said.

'Here I am,' he replied.

He said,

'Do not raise your hand against the boy or do anything to him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your own beloved son.'

Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son. Abraham called this place 'The Lord provides', hence the saying today: 'On the mountain the Lord provides.'

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven.

'I swear by my own self, the Lord declares, that because you have done this, because you have not refused me your own beloved son, I will shower blessings on you and make your descendants as

numerous as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants will gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All nations on earth will bless themselves by your descendants, because you have obeyed my command.'

The word of the Lord.

*2nd Reading [shorter form] † Genesis 22:1-2.9-13.15-18*

*Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac.*

**A reading from the Book of Genesis**

It happened some time later that God put Abraham to the test.

'Abraham, Abraham!' he called.

'Here I am,' he replied.

God said,

'Take your son, your only son, Isaac whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and there you shall offer him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains which I shall point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place that God had indicated to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven.

'Abraham, Abraham!' he said.

'Here I am,' he replied.

He said,

'Do not raise your hand against the boy or do anything to him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your own beloved son.'

Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son. The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven.

'I swear by my own self, the Lord declares, that because you have done this, because you have not refused me your own beloved son, I will shower blessings on you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants will gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All nations on earth will bless themselves by your descendants, because you have obeyed my command.'

The word of the Lord.

*Responsorial 2 † Psalm 15:5.8-11*

***Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.***

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;  
it is you yourself who secure my destiny.  
I keep the Lord before me always;  
with him at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

***Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.***

And so, my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
even my body shall rest in hope.  
For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,  
nor let your faithful see corruption.

***Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.***

You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence,  
at your right hand, bliss for ever.

***Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.***

***3rd Reading # Exodus 14:15-15:1***

*Tell the children of Israel to march on, to walk through the sea on dry ground.*

**A reading from the Book of Exodus**

Then the Lord said to Moses,

‘Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on. You are to raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, and the Israelites will walk through the sea on dry ground, while I, for my part, shall harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will follow them, and I shall win glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, chariots and horsemen. And when I win glory for myself over Pharaoh and his chariots and horsemen, the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord.’

Then the angel of God, who was going before the army of Israel, changed station and followed behind them. The pillar of cloud moved from their front and took up position behind them. It came between the army of the Egyptians and the army of Israel. The cloud was dark, and the night passed without the one drawing any closer to the other the whole night long. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the Lord drove the sea back with a strong easterly wind all night and made the sea into dry land. The waters were divided and the Israelites went on dry ground right through the sea, with walls of water to the right and left of them.

The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh’s horses, chariots and horsemen went into the sea after them. In the morning watch, the Lord looked down on the army of the Egyptians from the pillar of fire and cloud and threw the Egyptian army into confusion. He so clogged their chariot wheels that they could hardly make progress. So the Egyptians said,

‘Let us flee from Israel, for the Lord is fighting for them against the Egyptians!’

Then the Lord said to Moses,

‘Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters flow back on the Egyptians and on their chariots and their horsemen.’

Moses stretched out his hand over the sea and, as day broke, the sea returned to its normal state. The fleeing Egyptians ran straight into it, and the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the middle of the sea.

The waters returned and covered the chariots and horsemen of Pharaoh’s entire army, which had followed the Israelites into the sea; not a single one of them was left. The Israelites, however, had marched through the sea on dry ground, and the waters formed a wall to the right and to the left of them. That day, the Lord rescued Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the seashore. When Israel saw the mighty deed that the Lord had performed against the Egyptians, the people revered the Lord and put their faith in the Lord and in Moses, his servant.

Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord:

*The canticle follows immediately.*

***Responsorial 3 # Exodus 15:1-6.17-18***

***Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.***

'I shall sing to the Lord, he has triumphed in glory,  
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.  
The Lord is my strength and my song,  
he is my salvation.  
He is my God and I shall praise him,  
the God of my father and I shall exalt him.

***Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.***

The Lord is a warrior; the Lord is his name.  
Pharaoh's chariots and army he has hurled into the sea;  
the pick of his captains drowned in the Sea of Reeds.  
The Deep closed over them,  
they sank to the depths like stone.

***Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.***

Your right hand, Lord, glorious in power,  
your right hand, Lord, shattered your foes.

***Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.***

You bring them and plant them  
on the mountain, your heritage,  
the place which you, Lord, have made your dwelling,  
the sanctuary, Lord, prepared by your hands.  
The Lord will reign for ever and ever.'

***Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.***

*4th Reading † Isaiah 54:5-14*

*But with everlasting love I have taken pity on you, says the Lord, your redeemer.*

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

Thus says the Lord:

For your creator is your husband,  
the Lord Sabaoth is his name;  
the Holy One of Israel is your redeemer,  
he is called God of all the earth.

For like a wife forsaken and sad at heart,  
the Lord has called you back;  
like the young wife repudiated, says your God.

I did forsake you for a brief moment,  
but in great compassion I shall take you back.  
In a flood of anger,  
for a moment I hid my face from you  
but in everlasting love I have taken pity on you,'  
says the Lord, your redeemer.

'This will be to me as it was in the days of Noah  
when I swore that Noah's floodwaters  
should never again cover the earth.  
So now I swear never to be angry with you  
and never to rebuke you.

The mountains may depart and the hills may be shaken  
but my faithful love will never leave you,  
my covenant of peace will never be shaken,'  
says the Lord in his pity for you.

'Unhappy city, storm-tossed, unpitied,  
look, I shall lay your stones with fine mortar  
and your foundations on sapphires.

I shall make your battlements rubies,  
your gateways firestone and your enclosure precious stones.  
All your children will be taught by the Lord  
and great will be your children's prosperity.

You will be established in saving justice,  
far removed from oppression.  
You will have nothing to fear:  
free from terror, for it will not approach you.

The word of the Lord.

*Responsorial 4 † Psalm 29:2.4-6.11-13*

***I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.***

I will extol you, Lord, for you have raised me up,  
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.  
O Lord, you have lifted up my soul from Sheol,  
restored me to life from those who sink into the pit.

***I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.***



Sing psalms to the Lord, you faithful ones;  
give thanks to his holy name.  
His anger lasts a moment; his favour all through life.  
At night come tears, but dawn brings joy.

***I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.***

Hear, O Lord, and grant me your favour;  
be my helper, O Lord.  
You have changed my mourning into dancing,  
removed my sackcloth and girded me with joy.  
So my soul sings psalms to you, and will not be silent.  
O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever.

***I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.***

### ***5th Reading # Isaiah 55:1-11***

*Come to me and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant.*

### **A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

Thus says the Lord:

'O you who are thirsty, come to the water!  
You who have no money, come buy and eat!  
Come buy wine and milk without money, free!  
Why spend money on what cannot nourish  
and your earnings on what fails to satisfy?

Listen carefully to me:  
have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy.  
Pay attention, come to me; listen, and you will live.  
I shall make an everlasting covenant with you –  
the mercies of my steadfast love for David.

Look, I have put him as a witness to peoples,  
a leader and lawgiver to peoples.  
Look, you will summon a nation unknown to you;  
nations unknown to you will hurry to you  
for the sake of the Lord your God  
because the Holy One of Israel has made you glorious.

Seek the Lord while he is to be found,  
call to him while he is near.  
Let the wicked abandon their ways  
and the sinful their thoughts.  
Let them turn back to the Lord  
that he may have mercy on them,  
to our God, for he is rich in forgiveness.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts  
and your ways are not my ways – declares the Lord.  
For as the heavens are high above earth  
so are my ways above your ways,  
my thoughts above your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from the sky  
and do not return before watering the earth,  
fertilising it and making it germinate

to provide seed for the sower and food to eat,  
so it is with the word that goes forth from my mouth:  
it does not return to me unfulfilled  
or before carrying out my purpose  
and achieving what it was sent to do.

The word of the Lord.

*Responsorial 5 # Isaiah 12:2-6*

***You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.***

See, he is the God of my salvation:  
I shall trust and will not be afraid,  
for the Lord God is my strength  
and my power,  
he has become my salvation.  
Joyfully you will draw water from the springs of salvation

***You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.***

Praise the Lord  
call upon his name.  
Make known his deeds to the people,  
declare that his name is exalted.

***You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.***

Sing of the Lord  
for his works are majestic,  
make them known throughout the world.  
Cry aloud and shout for joy,  
you who live in Zion,  
For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.'

***You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.***

*6th Reading # Baruch 3:9-15.32-4:4*

*Walk in the way of God and you will live in peace for ever.*

**A reading from the prophet Baruch**

Listen, Israel, to commands that bring life;  
listen and learn what knowledge means.  
Why, Israel, why is it that you are in the land of your enemies,  
growing old in an alien land, defiled by the dead,  
reckoned with those who go down to Hades?

You have forsaken the fountain of wisdom!  
Had you walked in the way of God,  
you would be living in peace for ever.

Learn where knowledge is,  
where strength, where understanding,  
and so learn where length of days is, where life,  
where the light of the eyes and where peace.  
But who has found her place,  
who has entered her treasure houses?

But the One who knows all discovers her,  
has found her by his own understanding;  
he has set the earth firm for evermore  
and filled it with four-footed beasts;  
he sends forth the light and it goes –  
he recalled it and trembling it obeyed.  
The stars shone joyfully at their posts;  
when he called them they answered, ‘We are here’;  
they shine to delight their Creator.

He is our God, no other can compare with him.  
He has uncovered the whole way of knowledge  
and shown her to his servant Jacob, to Israel his beloved –  
only then did she appear on earth  
and live with human beings.

She is the book of God’s commandments,  
the Law that stands for ever;  
those who keep her shall live,  
those who desert her shall die.

Turn back, Jacob, and seize her:  
in her radiance make your way to light.  
Do not yield your glory to another,  
your privilege to an alien people.  
Blessed are we, Israel:  
what pleases God has been made known to us!

The word of the Lord.

*Responsorial 6 † Psalm 18:8-11*

***Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.***

The law of the Lord is perfect;  
it revives the soul.  
The decrees of the Lord are steadfast;  
they give wisdom to the simple.

***Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.***

The precepts of the Lord are right;  
they gladden the heart.  
The command of the Lord is clear;  
it gives light to the eyes.

***Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.***

The fear of the Lord is pure,  
abiding for ever.  
The judgements of the Lord are true;  
they are, all of them, righteous.

***Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.***

They are more to be desired than gold,  
than quantities of gold.  
And sweeter are they than honey,  
than honey flowing from the comb.

***Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.***

***7th Reading † Ezekiel 36:16-28***

*I shall pour clean water over you and I shall give you a new heart.*

**A reading from the prophet Ezekiel**

The word of the Lord came to me, saying,

‘Son of man, the members of the House of Israel used to live in their own territory but they defiled it by their conduct and actions; to me their conduct was as unclean as a woman’s menstruation. I then vented my wrath on them because of the blood they shed in the land and the idols with which they defiled it.

I scattered them among the nations and they were dispersed throughout the lands. I sentenced them as their conduct and actions deserved. They have profaned my holy name among the nations where they have gone, so that people say of them,

“These are the people of the Lord; they have been exiled from his land.”

But I have been concerned about my holy name which the House of Israel has profaned among the nations where they have gone.

‘And so, say to the House of Israel,

“Thus says the Lord God: I am acting not for your sake, House of Israel, but for the sake of my holy name which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone.

I am going to display the holiness of my great name which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the Lord – declares the Lord God – when in you I display my holiness before their eyes. For I shall take you from among the nations and gather you back from all the lands and bring you home to your own land.

I shall pour clean water over you and you will be cleansed; I shall cleanse you of all your filth and of all your foul idols. I shall give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I shall remove the heart of stone from your bodies and give you a heart of flesh.

I shall put my spirit in you and make you keep my laws and respect and practise my judgements. You will live in the land which I gave your ancestors.

You will be my people and I shall be your God.

The word of the Lord.

***Responsorial 7 [Option 1] † Psalm 41:3.5; 42:3.4***

***Like a deer that longs for running streams,  
my soul longs for you, my God.***

My soul is thirsting for God,  
the living God;  
when can I enter and appear  
before the face of God?

***Like a deer that longs for running streams,  
my soul longs for you, my God.***

These things will I remember  
as I pour out my soul.  
For I would go to the place  
of the tent of your glory,  
all the way to the house of God,

amid cries of gladness and thanksgiving,  
the throng keeping joyful festival.

***Like a deer that longs for running streams,  
my soul longs for you, my God.***

O send forth your light and your truth;  
they will guide me.  
They will bring me to your holy mountain,  
to the place where you dwell.

***Like a deer that longs for running streams,  
my soul longs for you, my God.***

And I will come to the altar of God;  
to God, my joy and gladness.  
To you will I give thanks on the harp,  
O God, my God.

***Like a deer that longs for running streams,  
my soul longs for you, my God.***

***Responsorial 7 [Option 2] † Psalm 50:12-15.18-19***

***Create a clean heart in me, O God.***

Create a pure heart for me, O God;  
renew a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence;  
take not your holy spirit from me.

***Create a clean heart in me, O God.***

Restore in me the joy of your salvation;  
sustain in me a willing spirit.  
I will teach offenders your ways,  
that sinners may return to you.

***Create a clean heart in me, O God.***

For in sacrifice you take no delight;  
a burnt offering from me would not please you.  
My sacrifice to God, a broken spirit:  
a broken and humbled heart,  
O God, you will not spurn.

***Create a clean heart in me, O God.***

***Epistle † Romans 6:3-11***

*Christ, having been raised from the dead, will never die again.*

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

Do you not realise that we who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? So by baptism into his death we were buried with him, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too should live in newness of life. If we have become united to him by dying a death like his, so we shall be united by a resurrection like his, in the knowledge that our former self was crucified with him so that the self of sin should be set aside, so that we should no longer be enslaved to sin. For someone who has died has been justified from sin.

But if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall live with him too, knowing that Christ once raised from the dead will never die again. Death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died, he died to sin, and the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, you must reckon yourselves dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

*After the Epistle all rise.  
The priest solemnly intones the Alleluia, which is repeated by all.*

***Responsorial Psalm & Gospel Acclamation † Psalm 117:1-2.16-17.22-23***

***Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.***

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his mercy endures for ever.  
Let the house of Israel say,  
'His mercy endures for ever.'

***Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.***

'The Lord's right hand has done mighty deeds;  
his right hand is exalted.  
I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount the deeds of the Lord.

***Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.***

The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.  
By the Lord has this been done,  
a marvel in our eyes.

***Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.***

## Easter Vigil Gospel, Year A



### *Gospel † Matthew 28:1-10*

*He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee.*

#### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

After the Sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre. And suddenly there was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, his robe white as snow. The guards were so shaken by fear of him that they became like dead men. But the angel spoke; and he said to the women,

‘Do not be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified.

He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said.

Come and see the place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his disciples,

“He has been raised from the dead and see,  
he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.”

Look! I have told you.’

They came quickly away from the tomb, filled with awe and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And see, coming to meet them, was Jesus, saying,

‘Greetings!’

And the women came up to him and, clasping his feet, they worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them,

‘Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers  
that they must leave for Galilee; there they will see me.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

## Easter Vigil Gospel, Year B



*Gospel † Mark 16:1-8*

*Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified, has risen.*

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

When the Sabbath was over, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go and anoint him. And very early in the morning on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. They were saying to one another,

‘Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?’

But when they looked up they saw that the stone – for it was very big – had already been rolled back. On entering the tomb they saw a young man seated on the right-hand side clothed in a white robe, and they were amazed. But he said to them,

‘Do not be amazed.

You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified:  
he has been raised, he is not here.

See the place where they laid him.

But go and tell his disciples and Peter,

“He is going ahead of you to Galilee;  
there you will see him, just as he told you.”

And the women came out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and amazement had gripped them. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The Gospel of the Lord.



## Easter Vigil Gospel, Year C



*Gospel # Luke 24:1-12*

*Why look among the dead for someone who is alive?*

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, bringing the spices they had prepared. They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb, but on entering they could not find the body of the Lord Jesus. And it happened that as they were perplexed at this, two men in dazzling clothes were suddenly standing beside them.

They were terrified and bowed their heads to the ground as the men said to them,

‘Why are you looking for the living among the dead?

He is not here; he has been raised up.

Remember what he told you while he was still in Galilee,

saying that the Son of man must be handed over

into the power of sinners and be crucified,

and rise again on the third day.’

And they remembered his words. And they went back from the tomb and told all this to the Eleven and to all the others. The women were Mary of Magdala, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James. And the other women with them told the apostles, but this story of theirs seemed an idle tale, and they did not believe them.

Peter, however, got up and ran off to the tomb. Bending down, he saw the linen cloths lying there but nothing else; then he went back home, amazed at what had happened.

The Gospel of the Lord.